

Special Partnership Project, Our Legacy, Our Future



Kentucky women outside the polls, 1920, used with permission, University of Louisville, Photo Archives.

KCW worked in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Education's Division of Equity and Kentucky Educational Television on a project to increase interest in the history of Kentucky women, particularly in the area of public service. This four-part education packet includes:

- A poster called "Our Legacy, Our Future," featuring Kentucky women, past and present
- A one-hour film about Kentucky women and public service
- A curriculum guide designed to help teachers incorporate women's history into the classroom
- A Web site complementing the video, poster, and curriculum guide, www.womeninkentucky.com

The Kentucky Commission on Women
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Tori Murden-McClure Day. Female representatives honor first woman to row across the Atlantic Ocean.

Help us to strengthen Kentucky women:

- Share your concerns with KCW
- Keep KCW informed about your organization's activities and leadership changes
- Apply for a position on a board or commission
- Create community programs on issues affecting women
- Support women candidates and leaders
- Contact your elected officials about issues pertaining to women
- Register and VOTE!
- Most important-Run for elected office!

Front panel: Kentucky suffragists, 1916, used with permission, University of Kentucky Special Collections.

We have chosen to print this brochure in purple and gold, the colors of the suffrage movement, in order to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the 19th amendment.

Funding and support for this brochure provided by Governor Paul Patton and First Lady Judi Patton, and by the Kentucky Commission on Women.

Kentucky Commission on Women



History and Goals

In response to President John F. Kennedy's creation of a commission on the Status of Women, Governor Edward T. Breathitt established a state commission in April 1964, to study and report on the status of Kentucky women. The findings demonstrated a pronounced need for a permanent agency to promote the improvement of women's status, and in November 1968, Governor Louie Nunn signed the executive order establishing the Kentucky Commission on Women (KCW). In 1970, KCW became an official state agency through legislative action. Since 1984, KCW has been under the Cabinet for General Government as an administrative body attached to the Governor's Office. KCW has a board membership comprised of First Lady Judi Patton, the Lt. Governor, and not more than an additional 24 members including the chairperson.

KRS 344.510-344.530 mandates KCW to:

- Conduct research and coordinate programs to educate the public about problems and issues pertaining to women
- Serve in an advisory capacity to the governor and state and local government agencies
- Cooperate with the federal government and other state governments in creating and participating in programs concerning women
- Encourage and advise the private sector in establishing local volunteer programs to improve the status of women.



The Governor and First Lady Judi Patton, state legislators, and Early Childhood Initiative Chairperson Nicki Patton at the press conference celebrating passage of HB 706.

"My administration will work to increase opportunities for Kentucky's women, which will in turn increase the opportunities for Kentucky's families."

GOVERNOR PAUL PATTON



The Pattons with relatives of Louise Southgate, early physician and suffrage activist from Covington, at the 2000 Kentucky Women Remembered unveiling. In order to educate the public about the contributions of women and make women more visible in our state capitol, KCW established a permanent exhibit of watercolors depicting notable women in Kentucky history. The Kentucky Women Remembered exhibit, located in the Capitol, is added to each year.

Clearing House for Information and Referrals

KCW staff maintains and provides, upon request, up-to-date information about a variety of issues affecting women. KCW distributes a newsletter and other information to women's organizations and activists working throughout the state. To encourage women's participation in leadership roles, KCW publishes a directory of state boards and commissions which provides pertinent information about each board and commission, and includes the required application. Other publications include: Sexual Harassment in the Workplace, The Status of Women in Kentucky, and A Profile of Women's Health.

Developing Coalitions, Workshops, and Conferences

KCW encourages and provides assistance to coalitions of women to study issues and be more effective advocates. KCW attends and conducts local, regional, statewide, and national meetings that educate people about the rights and status of women, and issues impacting the future of women.

Your Advocate in Frankfort

During legislative sessions, KCW distributes the Legislative Update, which tracks bills related to women, and maintains an e-mail distribution list. KCW staff also serves on a number of task forces and committees that affect the lives of women in Kentucky.